

PLO: Cheysson remarks 'regrettable'

DAR ES SALAAM (R) — An official of the Palestine Liberation Organisation (PLO) was Monday quoted as regretting comments by French Foreign Minister Claude Cheysson on a U.N. conference on Palestine. Mr. Cheysson told French Television last week that France would have preferred that the conference should not take place in Paris in August because "we do not see what is going to achieve other than allow the expression of extremist views". The Tanzanian government newspaper, the Daily News, quoted the PLO representative in Lebanon, Shafik Al Hou, as saying: "It is regrettable to hear such a statement from Mr. Cheysson, who represents a country that used to claim a progressive position towards the struggle of the people of Palestine." Mr. Hou said the decision to hold the conference in Paris was taken by the U.N. General Assembly, "not by a group of extremist countries".

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Qasem, Sharif Zaid meet U.S. representative

AMMAN (Petra) — Foreign Minister Marwan Al Qasem received at his office Monday U.S. House of Representatives member Lee Aspin. Mr. Qasem explained to Mr. Aspin the latest developments involving the Middle East issue and the current situation in the area. Armed Forces Commander-in-Chief Lt.-Gen. Sharif Zaid Ibn Shaker also received Mr. Aspin at his office. The two meetings were attended by U.S. Ambassador to Amman Richard Vets.

Rabat to send summit invitations

AMMAN (J.T.) — Four Moroccan envoys are expected to leave Rabat Tuesday carrying invitations from King Hassan to Arab leaders to attend an extraordinary Arab summit to be held in Morocco on April 16. The Iraqi News Agency (INA) reported from the Moroccan capital. Quoting official Moroccan sources, INA said that one of King Hassan's special advisers will leave for Gulf Arab states, while Foreign Minister Mohammad Boucetta is scheduled to visit Syria and Libya. Two other envoys, Ahmad Rida Kararib and Abdul Latif Al Filali, will leave for other Arab countries. INA said.

Israel sends message to Moscow

TEL AVIV (Agencies) — Israel has informed the Soviet Union, through diplomatic channels and an unidentified third country, Soviet charges that Israel plans to attack Syria are "groundless", an Israeli newspaper reported Monday. The daily *Maariv* said that Israel has sent a letter to Moscow stating that it "intends to withdraw from Lebanon as soon as an agreement on security arrangements was reached with the Lebanese government." The newspaper said that the message also stated that Israel has no territorial or other claims in Lebanon.

TASS warns Tokyo against nuclear plans

MOSCOW (R) — The Soviet news agency TASS said Monday Japan was clearly conniving at an American nuclear build-up in the Far East and advised Prime Minister Yasuhiro Nakasone to reconsider what it called a risky policy. "Tokyo should understand that the Soviet Union, (and) the socialist countries of Asia, will not remain indifferent to the plans of further drawing Japan into the nuclear strategy of the USA," TASS political commentator Boris Cherkashin wrote. Mr. Nakasone has denied the presence of any U.S. nuclear weapons on Japanese territory, but the TASS commentary said this was just "putting a good face on the matter."

Gloria Swanson dies

NEW YORK (R) — Actress Gloria Swanson, one of Hollywood's biggest stars in the 1920s and 30s, died Monday. Officials of New York Hospital said she was 84. They declined to give the cause of death. Miss Swanson entered hospital on March 20.

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Jordan-PLO talks continue

By Lamis Andoni
Special to the Jordan Times

AMMAN — His Majesty King Hussein and Palestine Liberation Organisation (PLO) Chairman Yasser Arafat Monday held a fourth round of talks on joint moves to find a solution to the Middle East conflict.

Mr. Arafat, who has been engaged in intensified talks with the King since his arrival in Jordan last Thursday, also chaired an important meeting of the PLO Executive Committee.

Although the exact nature of the talks between the King and the PLO chairman was not disclosed, a PLO Executive Committee member told the Jordan Times there is "an agreement on basic issues" and that the outcome of the talks will be referred to an Arab summit scheduled to be held in the Moroccan city of Fez on April 16. The PLO will request the summit to review all peace initiatives and proposals for solving the Arab-Israeli conflict, including a plan announced by U.S. President Ronald Reagan last September, he said.

A Jordan-PLO joint statement, which was expected to be issued after Monday's meeting, was apparently postponed. A Palestinian source said that the expected statement will focus on three major points.

It would call on the United States to announce the basic principle of a Middle East solution that Israel will withdraw from all occupied Arab territories, the source said.

Secondly, it would stress on a coordinated stand between Jordan and the PLO at the forthcoming Arab summit, and finally that Jordan and the PLO will adopt joint and unified political moves in efforts for peace in the Middle East.

"These moves will be carried out within the framework of a unified Arab move, to be decided at the Arab summit," the source said.

"However, we stress that the Reagan plan alone is not enough for a just and durable peace in the Middle East," the executive committee member said.

The Reagan plan calls for Palestinian self-rule in the Israeli occupied West Bank and Gaza Strip in association with Jordan. After its meetings in Algiers last February, the Palestine National Council (PNC) rejected the plan as a basis for a permanent solution to the Palestinian problem and endorsed instead an Arab peace plan adopted at last September's Arab summit held in Fez, Morocco.

Statements given by PLO officials before and after the Executive Committee meeting on Monday, ranged from outright rejection of the American initiative to expressions of cautious reservations.

PLO Executive Committee member Mohsen Abu Maizar told reporters Monday that he "does not see any positive elements in the American initiative" and felt that the PLO should not "fall in the trap of the U.S. plan."

Other PLO officials questioned the "willingness and seriousness" of the United States to implement its proposals, which have been rejected outright by Israel. "We need tangible evidence from Washington," another PLO official, who refused to be identified, told the Jordan Times.

The current intensified talks in Amman prove that there is no fundamental differences between the PLO and Jordan in their attitude towards current developments, a PLO official told the Jordan Times.

The credibility of American intentions in the Middle East, the



Palestine Liberation Organisation (PLO) Chairman Yasser Arafat chairs a meeting of the PLO Executive Committee in Amman Monday (Petra photo)

Challenger blasts off into space

KENNEDY SPACE CENTRE, Florida (R) — The new space shuttle Challenger blasted off from here Monday on its first flight and the sixth U.S. shuttle mission in less than two years.

Powered by three liquid-fuel engines and two solid booster rockets, Challenger lifted off precisely on time at 1:30 p.m. (1830 GMT) after a trouble-free countdown.

The gleaming spacecraft with its bright orange external fuel tank climbed into a clear blue sky in the first afternoon launch of a shuttle.

High-altitude winds, which had earlier in the day threatened a postponement, did not affect the launch and Challenger roared toward an orbit about 280 kilometres from earth.

After blast-off Challenger's two booster rockets had already burned up their tonnes of solid fuel and were jettisoned over the Atlantic.

Challenger, second of four shut-

tle orbiter, trailed a cloud of steam which engulfed the launch pad and drifted over the nearby Atlantic Ocean.

Its five rocket engines released a shock wave which was felt many kilometres away.

Challenger's crew-mission commander Paul Weitz, pilot Karol Bobko and specialists Story Musgrave and Donald Peterson — was scheduled to deploy an important communications satellite about 10 hours after launch, one of the major objectives of the five-day mission.

A little more than two minutes after blast-off Challenger's two booster rockets had already burned up their tonnes of solid fuel and were jettisoned over the

Atlantic.

Problems with those engines delayed Challenger's first flight for more than two months.

The launch, originally set for late January, was also delayed for several days by a February storm which left dust and sand particles in Challenger's cargo hold.

But it was a series of leaks in the complicated liquid fuel engines which caused the major delay. They had to be replaced before the mission.

Intriguing variety of cargo on board, page 8

Mubarak arrives in North Korea

TOKYO (R) — Egyptian President Hosni Mubarak arrived in Pyongyang Monday for a one-day official visit to North Korea during which he will hold talks with Premier Zhao Ziyang, Communist Party General Secretary Hu Yaobang and influential elder statesman Deng Xiaoping.

The agency, monitored in Tokyo, said Mr. Mubarak was greeted by Mr. Kim at the airport on his arrival from a four-day visit to China.

Despite the fact that PLO officials have repeatedly insisted on the organisation's right to represent the Palestinians in any peace negotiation, Palestinian sources said that the issue of representation can be solved provided that the PLO has the right to name the Palestinian representative and the U.S. guarantees to secure an Israeli withdrawal from the occupied territories clearing the way for an independent Palestinian state.

Describing Mr. Mubarak as a "goodwill envoy" of Egypt, the agency said crowds turned out in Pyongyang to welcome him.

Mr. Mubarak is due to arrive in Tokyo Tuesday on the third leg of

a four-nation Asian tour, which will later take him to Indonesia.

Officials said the Middle East situation was high on the agenda at meetings Mr. Mubarak had with Premier Zhao Ziyang, Communist Party General Secretary Hu Yaobang and influential elder statesman Deng Xiaoping.

According to Chinese reports, Mr. Deng Sunday told the Egyptian leader a settlement of the Middle East conflict depended on Arab unity and he hoped Cairo would play a greater role in strengthening this unity.

Mr. Mubarak told Mr. Deng the Arab states were closing ranks and that Egypt was determined to

improve relations with the other Arab countries, the reports said.

Relations between Egypt and other Arab states were strained when Cairo signed a treaty with Israel.

At a news conference after the talks ended, the president described Egypt's disagreements with other Arab countries as "superficial and temporary" and merely "minor differences between brothers."

He urged the Palestine Liberation Organisation and Jordan to reach a common approach for negotiations on the U.S. peace plan put forward by President Reagan last September.

Austrian leaves Syria after prisoner talks

DAMASCUS (R) — Austrian special envoy Herbert Amry left Damascus Monday for home to report on talks about a possible exchange of prisoners between Israel and the Palestine Liberation Organisation (PLO), a PLO official said.

After Monday's meeting, Mr. Amry strongly condemned U.S. policies in the Middle East and said that the PLO will adopt measures to undermine American interests in the Middle East.

There was no official word from the Jordanian side on the outcome of the Hussein-Arafat talks.

But senior Jordanian officials, prior to the current round of talks, have stressed that Jordan will not participate in any negotiations without Palestinian representation and PLO approval.

The current intensified talks in Amman prove that there is no fundamental difference between the PLO and Jordan in their attitude towards current developments, a PLO official told the Jordan Times.

The credibility of American intentions in the Middle East, the

Command. The other six Israelis are in the hands of the mainstream Fatah commando group and have been seen regularly by outsiders.

Reports from Israel say that as part of any exchange deal the government there is also asking for information on Israeli troops missing and believed captured by Syria.

Mr. Amry has visited both Israel and the Anas camp during his visit to the Middle East. PLO officials in Amman said that at Anas he was given a detailed list of Palestinians held by Israel. He also conferred with the chairman of the camp prisoners' committee, who gave him a report on conditions there. Israel Radio said Monday that Mr. Amry was given "an accurate list of prisoners" held in Anas.

Portuguese election campaign gets off

LISBON (R) — Portugal's fifth general election campaign since its 1974 revolution officially got under way Monday without the usual excitement, noise and celebration.

A few groups set out at midnight armed with election posters and paste, and youths from the tiny Monarchist Party began a new wall painting in central Lisbon. But the festive atmosphere of immediate post-revolutionary campaigns was lacking.

The subdued start was partly due to a long and weary government crisis, beginning with Prime Minister Francisco Pinto Balsema's resignation in December, which gave the political parties ample time to have their propaganda ready for the dissolution of parliament in February.

Contributing to the subdued atmosphere of the campaign is the gloomy message of the politicians, whose speeches are dominated by economic crisis and preach austerity and hard times ahead.

Former Prime Minister Mario Soares, whose Socialist Party is expected to come top in the elections, set the tone of the campaign with press conferences explaining the dire state of the Portuguese economy.

Describing Portugal's economic situation as highly dangerous, Mr. Soares said: "We wish to enter the political debate at the start of the

Thai jet bombs Vietnamese forces

BANGKOK (R) — A Thai plane Monday bombed Vietnamese troops inside Thailand to an important escalation of the fighting on the Thai-Kampuchean border. It was believed to be the first time that Thailand had acted from the air to counter incursions by the Vietnamese across the ill-defined frontier during their battle against Kampuchean guerrillas. Thai military sources said the F-5 fighter-bomber made two strikes against Vietnamese forces dug in on the slopes of Phnom Pra, a mountain straddling the border near the overrun Khmer Rouge base at Phnom Chat. The plane also bombed Vietnamese troops on the Thai side of the border opposite Phnom Chat, the sources said. They estimated the number of Vietnamese troops on Thai territory at about 150, but could not say how many were hit in the air raids.

Earlier story on page 8

Iran rejects Iraqi truce offer to clean oil slick

BAHRAYN (R) — Iran turned down Monday an Iraqi offer of a limited ceasefire to allow neutral experts to stem widespread pollution of the Gulf.

It said Iraq should first give safe conduct to repair crews standing by to cap the two damaged offshore platforms in a dangerous war zone.

Ambassador Ali Shams Ardakani said here Iraq should retract a war communiqué in which it said ships close to the leaking oilfield would be military targets.

"All Iraq has to do is to retract a March 2 statement and say it will not attack," he told Reuters.

Mr. Shams is leading the Iranian delegation to crisis talks here of pollution experts from all the Gulf states.

Setting out the Iraqi offer, an official spokesman in Baghdad told Reuters the ceasefire, to let repair crews cap shattered Iranian wells at the head of the Gulf, should be under the auspices of the United Nations or other international bodies.

The ceasefire should not give the Iranian regime the opportunity to clean up the waterways in the Gulf or enable it to sail its ships and carry weapons or ammunition through these waterways or clear the zone of naval mines."

Egypt praises Reagan's ban on F-16 deliveries to Israel

CAIRO (R) — Egypt Monday praised President Reagan's decision to halt a shipment of 75 F-16 fighter bombers to Israel and urged the United States to adopt other practical steps to put an end to Israel's occupation of Lebanon.

Minister of State for Foreign Affairs Boutros Ghali told newsmen: "We hope this significant step will be followed by even more effective measures."

Mr. Reagan said on Thursday that the shipment could not be sent because Israeli troops were occupying Lebanon and "under the law, these weapons must be

used for defensive purposes."

Egypt, the only Arab state with diplomatic relations with Israel, has downgraded its ties with its neighbour since the Israeli invasion of Lebanon last June.

"It is illogical that Israel persists on its occupation of Lebanese territory and at the same time obtains more weapons to consolidate its aggressive plans in the Middle East," he said.

Mr. Ghali said that Israel should not hope for an improvement in relations with Egypt unless it withdraws its forces from Lebanon.

U.S. experts arrive in Israel to probe mass poisoning cases

TEL AVIV (R) — Two American experts have arrived in Israel to investigate the mystery illness that has struck about 850 Palestinians in the Israeli-occupied West Bank during the past 10 days.

As the specialists began work, Israeli security forces arrested Arabs who drove through the West Bank city of Nablus in two loudspeaker cars Monday broadcasting that the water supply was poisoned.

Demonstrations were reported in two other West Bank towns. The officials said most of the 300 Palestinians, most of them school girls, were taken to hospital after complaining of nausea and dizziness. Most were released after a few hours' observation.

Mr. Modan said the American experts came from the Centre for Disease Control in Atlanta, Georgia. This centre investigated the legionnaire's disease outbreak in Philadelphia in 1976.

Two Palestinians were hurt when another motorist drove through the stone-throwing crowd.

Most of those struck by the mystery illness have been from Jenin, in the north of the West Bank. But the epidemic has now been reported in several other places, including Yatta, 120 kilometres to the south.

Moscow stresses tough stand against U.S. offer

MOSCOW (R) — The United States is wrong to think Moscow might reconsider its rejection of President Reagan's plan for an interim missile agreement, the official news agency TASS said Monday.

FEATURES

Presidential protection is still a major issue in U.S.

By David Nagy

Reuter

WASHINGTON — Two years after Ronald Reagan survived a gunman's attack, the United States still grapples with the problems of presidential protection and firearms violence.

Though Mr. Reagan still governs in good health and his assailant is behind bars, bitter argument goes on over how to curb random violence, control handguns and ensure justice in a society that prizes its freedom.

On March 30, 1981, as the president was leaving a Washington hotel, a deranged drifter, John Hinckley, stepped from the crowd and fired six shots.

One bullet struck Mr. Reagan in the left lung before Secret Service bodyguards could shove him into his car and tackle the would-be assassin.

U.S. food stamps play key role in high fraud

By Kelly Gilbert

Reuter

BALTIMORE, Maryland — Fraud in the U.S. food programme for the poor has become such big business that food stamps are being used to buy cars, boats, stereos and even houses, according to investigators.

The Department of Agriculture (USDA) inspector general's office says that of the \$10.2 billion programme aimed at feeding the poor, at least \$1 billion worth is falling into the hands of defrauders and black marketers.

"The majority of recipients (of the cash-value food coupons) are dirt poor and they spend their

Other shots felled White House Press Secretary James Brady, secret service agent Tim McCarthy and policeman Thomas Delahanty.

It was the ninth assassination attempt against a U.S. president and the fourth in two decades, since John F. Kennedy was murdered in Dallas allegedly by Lee Harvey Oswald on Nov. 22, 1963.

Of all the questions raised by the Reagan assault and its aftermath, the only ones answered so far concern the immediate fates of victims and attacker.

The president survived emergency chest surgery with amazing resilience, and went on to win many battles with Congress the same year.

In a show of high spirits a few nights ago, he took the stage at a satirical review put on by journalists and, attired in silver sombrero and red blanket, sang a song

safirising his own record to the tune of "Manana Is Good Enough For Me."

Hinckley, now 27, was found "not guilty by reason of insanity" on June 21, 1982, in a verdict that outraged and baffled much of the public but fulfilled the requirements of laws protecting those suffering severe mental disorders.

The defense showed he had been under psychiatric care, showed signs of serious illness and was infatuated to the point of lunacy with actress Jodie Foster. He had written a note saying he was going to shoot Mr. Reagan to impress her.

He is confined in St. Elizabeth's Hospital in Washington, where he took an overdose of medicine in an apparent suicide attempt last month. Doctors revived him.

At St. Elizabeth's, where his top-security confinement was al-

ready costing a reported \$60,000 a year, Hinckley was put under special 24-hour watch after the overdose episode.

One hospital official declined to say whether that surveillance remained in force on the grounds that details of Hinckley's situation are ordinarily kept confidential.

Other hospital officials, however, confirmed that Hinckley retained the right to request court review of his case every six months and release if found mentally healthy.

Of Hinckley's other victims, Mr. Brady, the presidential press secretary, suffered a grievous brain wound but is fighting strongly to recover the use of his limbs and speech. Usually in a wheelchair, he is trying to resume some work and is one of Washington's most popular and admired figures.

Protection extends into the innermost recesses of the White

House, where bodyguards in well-tailored suits man the hallways. They do not take their eyes off an unfamiliar visitor, even though the visitor has been cleared through two barriers, holds a pass and is escorted by a White House aide.

Two weeks ago, these three filed for \$14 million damages against the psychiatrist who treated Hinckley before the Reagan attack, asserting that the doctor should have known his patient was dangerous and taken corrective steps.

Beyond the personal torments, the assassination attempt has left a fall-out of bitter, unresolved debate over sweeping issues of public policy.

The Secret Service still labours to guard the life of a man who must appear often in public and meet many strangers.

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HOME NEWS

Iraqi to succeed Qaddouri

AMMAN (Petra) — The Council of Arab Economic Unity (CAEU) ministerial meeting Sunday elected Mr. Mahdi Muhsen Odeh from Iraq as CEAU Secretary-General to succeed Dr. Fakhri Qaddouri whose mandate ends on April 30. Mr. Mohammad Al Sharif from Syria was elected as his deputy with responsibility for economic affairs.

Delegation to Brussels tariff talks departs

AMMAN (Petra) — The Jordanian delegation to the meetings of the Customs Cooperation Council left for Brussels Monday to attend the meetings of the council's customs tariff committee, which will begin there Tuesday.

Finance and Customs Ministry Under-Secretary Adel Al Qudai, who is heading the delegation, said the committee will discuss the possibility of amending the structure of world customs charges to go along with the developments of the age and to bridge the country to country gaps which appeared when the tariff was put to practical application.

Customs revenues up on '82

AMMAN (I.T.) — Customs revenues for March 1983 totalled JD 15.5 million, bringing the total revenues for the first three months of 1983 to JD 43,226,000. Compared with the same period last year total revenues increased by JD 5,604,000. The state had estimated the customs revenues for the purpose of the 1983 general budget at JD 159 million.

1,000 enjoy concert at Jerash

AMMAN (I.T.) — Around 1,000 enthusiastic listeners Sunday afternoon enjoyed the open air concert of the German Langenhagen Symphonic Brass Orchestra in the Roman amphitheatre in Jerash. The orchestra, which held the concert as part of the European Community Spring Festival, presented a programme of classical music, including waltzes, and modern music.

During the concert, the German marches and the big band sound received particularly outstanding applause.

The orchestra is scheduled to give two other concerts on April 5 and 6 at 8 p.m. in the Royal Cultural Centre.

Agri credit approved

AMMAN (I.T.) — The board of directors of the Agricultural Credit Corporation (ACC) approved Monday loans amounting to JD 971,000 to 71 agricultural projects, Al Ra'i newspaper reported Monday.

The paper said JD 243,000 of the amount has been allocated to develop irrigation networks, JD 25,000 to dig artesian wells, JD 7,000 for the cultivation of fruit-bearing trees in the highlands, and the rest for various other agricultural projects.

The paper also said that the ACC board of directors has also decided to allow farmers in the Jordan Valley to acquire loans to finance the purchase of plastic green houses and to install irrigation networks. It has also decided to allow the Jordan Valley farmers to obtain seasonal loans.

Hot springs to close

AMMAN (I.T.) — The Public Security Directorate has announced that the Ma'm hot springs area will be closed to tourists and visitors because a tourist project is currently under implementation there, Al Ra'i newspaper reported Monday.

The paper explained that visits will be banned because it would be difficult for people to reach the area because of the works currently underway.

Surgeons association to hold conference

AMMAN (Petra) — The Jordanian Surgeons Association (JSA) will hold a conference at the Professional Association Complex next week to discuss 13 different topics which will be submitted to the conference. JSA President Abdul Aziz Al Bilisi said in a press conference Monday.

Dr. Bilisi said that 11 of the 13 research topics will be submitted by Jordanian doctors, and the other two by a Finnish and a British doctor. The conference will also discuss health insurance which has become essential in this age, he said.



Jordanian Surgeons Association President Abdul Aziz Al Bilisi (centre) announces in a press conference Monday the date and agenda of the association's forthcoming conference (Petra photo)

Student abroad invents board game

AMMAN (I.T.) — A Jordanian student at North Texas State University in the USA has invented a new board game which is selling quickly in the cities of Denton and Houston.

Radi Al Rashed, currently in his final undergraduate year, called the game "Two out of three". A test of wits, it involves a player trying to defeat an opponent in two out of three rounds which are

called "First Invader", "High Count" and "Low Count".

Al Rashed has already sold 330 copies of the game and wants to find a sponsor to enable him to market the game nationally. After that Al Rashed hopes to convert it into a video game.

Radi Al Rashed is married to an American and next year hopes to go on to study for a doctorate in international relations.



Radi Al Rashed

Heritage week exhibition opens

AMMAN (Petra) — The Jordanian folklore exhibition, organised by the Jordanian Writers Society (JWS) in cooperation with the University of Jordan, was opened here Monday.

Artistic exhibits made out of cloth, copper, wood, mother of pearl, and gypsum representing the products of the East and West Banks will be on show during the seven-day exhibition. Books by Jordanian writers on folk history and photographs of national Jordanian dress will also be on show.



The Jordanian folklore exhibition which opened in Amman Monday (Petra photo)

Women's art exhibition asserts female creativity

By Meg Abu Hamdan
Special to the Jordan Times

AMMAN — With three exhibitions featuring their work opening in Amman this week, this has certainly been the week of Jordanian (and those with strong connections to the country) women and children. As you would expect from these fine sectors of society (speaking from a completely unbiased viewpoint) the shows are lively, thoughtful, valid (all the work without exception looked and felt as if it had been done for the love of it) and extremely interesting in the best sense of the word.

Although cramped into a very poor and miserable exhibition space at the Amman Hotel, the Creative Women of Jordan exhibition still looked good. Fine female talent shone out from every nook and cranny. From Princess Fahrelnissa Zeid there was a recent portrait painted in her remarkably oriental yet strongly individual style. Here the large eyes dominate the face catching a sadness that lies deep and hidden, while subtle details beautifully painted in colours that only an artist of her experience could conceive tell us of the more obvious facets of her sister's character. Other good figurative work comes from Ufemia Rizk, Munira Ton-

kan, Diana Shamounki, Da'ad Tell, Muna Saoudi and Laura Bil-basik, while exceptionally fine abstract work comes from Hind Sherif Nasser, Suha Shuman and Princess Wijdan Alia. A string of names...meaningless perhaps without some description, but their work is so interesting that a brief comment about each would not do them the justice they deserve. Suffice to say that it is a genuine pleasure to see so many women artists in Jordan producing such exciting and stimulating art despite a serious lack of encouragement and in the face of so much criticism.

Ivy Nasir, whose exhibition of oil paintings and coloured pencil drawings (which represents incidentally only a small proportion of her work, much of which is carried out in pen and ink) has been on show at the Amra Hotel, is another fine female talent which has just emerged from the crystallis where it has lain dormant during the years of being a wife and mother. This present body of work is in fact an enormous improvement on the paintings and drawings she exhibited two years ago, shortly after she had returned to painting.

Zarou, Yaser Duwick and Farouk Lambar, on account of the outstanding talent this young artist already possesses. With great technical ability Nidal depicted a bridge, its arches spanning the whirling cloud filled sky connecting a map of Jordan to a globe, and what won this picture the first prize was surely the dynamic sense of movement he managed to convey in soft and careful colour.

The second prize of a child and one adult fare to Athens (first prize is a trip for child and one parent to Vienna and third a free flight to Agapita and back), while all 62 entries received an Alia flight bag and tee-shirt went to nine-year-old Alai Elaias Akash of Terra Santa College. Chosen because of its spontaneity and honesty tone of the criteria of selection was that it must be the child's own work and ideas, that is there must be little evidence of adult help; the bright bold colours make this little painting tremendously attractive and gay.

Malik Bahaa Sakef (six) from the National Orthodox School took third prize for the tiny little drawings of camels and oil wells, sky-scrappers and windmills with which he filled his paper.

Totally unpretentious, often clever and humorous, children's art exhibitions are always a real pleasure to attend.

ART REVIEW

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NCC approves draft customs law articles

AMMAN (Petra) — The National Consultative Council Monday discussed the 1982 draft customs law and approved 65 out of its 278 articles at its weekly session held under the chairmanship of NCC Speaker Suleiman Arar with cabinet ministers in attendance.

The articles approved include details on the functions of the customs department, the principles of applying the customs tariff, the classification of goods in terms of origin, type, value, and the rules governing import and export, land, maritime and air transport

and customs clearance procedures.

The NCC also referred to the government three proposals dealing with the polluted lake at Marka, the standard of driving, and the raising of the performance of traffic policemen and the necessary measures to apply the new traffic law.

The NCC also referred to the economic committee a proposal from several NCC members regarding the formation of a technical committee to study the problems of national industries, the complaints of the owners of these industries and ways of tackling them.

The NCC also heard a report from the public services and utilities committee on the services required in Al Azraq area, and decided to postpone discussion of the report until the next session so that the NCC members could have time to study it.

Jordan Phosphate Mines Co. Ltd

Text for expatriate recruiting



THE JORDAN Phosphate Mines Co. is a large rock phosphate producer in Jordan employing about 4,000 people at Russifa, El Hassa and El Abiad Mines. Mining excavations involve shovel/truck and dragline operations. The following challenging positions are available for the operation and maintenance of a 10 million BCM per year dragline plant at El Hassa Mine 135 km south of Amman:

1. DRAGLINE OPERATION MANAGER

Qualifications and experience:

A Degree or Diploma in mining engineering acceptable to register with Jordan Engineers Association. Minimum 10 years experience in open pit mining or large earth-moving operations, several years of which spent in walking dragline operations. Knowledge of English is essential.

Duties: Responsible for continuous operation and maintenance of a dragline plant consisting of a 41 cu yd and 313 ft-boom electric walking dragline, two D9 bulldozers, two 45-R blasthole drills, Anfo truck, two cranes, complete maintenance workshop and 33/6.6 KV Power Distribution System. Manage a work force of about 70 consisting of local and expatriate labour. Perform all necessary planning, scheduling, budgeting, etc. Report to El Hassa Mine Manager for instructions and coordination.

2. DRAGLINE MECHANICAL MAINTENANCE SUPERINTENDANT

Qualifications and experience:

A Degree or Diploma in mechanical engineering acceptable to register with Jordan Engineers Association. Minimum 8 years experience on maintenance of mine plant equipment, at least 4 years of which with walking dragline operations. Knowledge of English is essential.

Duties: Responsible for proper maintenance and mechanical availability of dragline plant machinery listed above. Plan, organise and implement preventive maintenance, repairs and major overhauls of all mechanical equipment. Responsible for correct specifications and timely requisitions of all mechanical spares and maintenance supplies.

3. DRAGLINE ELECTRICAL MAINTENANCE SUPERINTENDANT

Qualifications and experience:

A Degree or Diploma in electrical engineering acceptable to register with Jordan Engineers Association. Minimum 8 years experience in electrical maintenance of mine plant equipment, at least 4 years of which with electrical dragline or large electric shovel operations. Knowledge of English is essential.

Duties: Responsible for proper maintenance and electrical availability of dragline plant equipment listed above. Plan, organise and implement preventive maintenance, repairs and major overhauls of all electrical equipment. Responsible for correct specifications and timely orders of electrical spares and maintenance supplies.

4. Two Mechanical Maintenance Supervisors

5. Electrical Maintenance Supervisor

6. Drilling and Blasting Foreman

7. Welding Supervisor

8. Three 1st-class Dragline Maintenance Electricians

9. Electronic and Instrument Technician

10. Three Dragline Operators

11. Two 1st-class Welders with certificates

12. Two 1st-class Fitters for dragline maintenance.

Conditions of employment: Employment is normally by 1-year contract renewable annually. Salaries are negotiable and paid free of tax.

Benefits include 30 days annual leave, return air fares to place of recruitment are paid to the employee, his wife and children up to 18 years of age at the end of each 12-month period of service. Unused annual leave is carried forward. Rent-free housing is available at El Hassa town site. Company's health scheme and the national pension insurance will apply to all expatriate employees. Employment is scheduled to start in May 1983 but not later than August 1983.

Applications providing full details of qualifications, experience, marital status and other personal data, together with a passport size photo, names and dates of birth of family members, contact phone number and address should be forwarded by air mail to:

Managing Director
Jordan Phosphate Mines Co.
Post Office Box 30
Amman - Jordan

The sand is deep, and the neck long

By Rami G. Khouri

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Accord for the future

RESULTS of several days of intensive and serious talks here between His Majesty King Hussein and PLO Chairman Yasser Arafat may have crystallised already but indications are that their full impact on the current search for peace in the Middle East will not be known for sometime yet. Until now, only a few know what these results are. But reports suggesting that Jordan and the PLO have reached accord on pursuing joint political moves within the Arab consensus, not closing the door on the Reagan or any other peace plan, seem to be credible and the closest to reality.

If it indeed exists, such Jordanian-Palestinian accord would not only be highly significant but also would represent a logical conclusion to wide-ranging and, consequently, complicated discussions whose scope might have been very difficult to imagine before.

The significance of any step taken jointly by Jordan and the PLO at this critical stage can hardly be doubted. The logic behind Jordanians and Palestinians joining bands with the rest of the Arab World on questions of destiny is impeccable, given the enormity of the Israeli challenge and the dangers posed by the Zionist expansion as well as the inability or unwillingness of friends and others alike to help us defend and regain Arab rights.

We must admit that there still exists a possibility, even danger, of losing sight of the real issue if the Arabs, as a whole, will not act swiftly to find the right mechanism for closely coordinated moves on the Palestine problem. Any Jordanian-Palestinian accord under the Arab umbrella therefore will gain strength only if its objectives and clauses are clear and realistic as well as dynamic.

There are very good reasons to believe that after their intensive and indeed crucial discussions here the Jordanian and Palestinian leaderships have gone a long way towards taking a giant step to liberate the occupied land and our people living on it. We remain optimistic and hopeful that after understanding there will come achievements, and we are almost sure that this is precisely what is going to happen.

Let the world have no doubt that Arabs are sincere and serious. Palestinian rights are not negotiable, but we are all committed to a just and honorable Middle East settlement.

ARABIC PRESS EDITORIALS

Al Ra'i : Poisoning: A premeditated act

THE Zionist mass media insist on considering the hundreds of schoolgirls overcome by poison in the West Bank as victims of a mysterious epidemic. The Israeli campaign is aimed at covering up for its direct responsibility for this despicable crime, scarcely preceded in human history.

The appearance of hundreds of new cases in Hebron, Tulkarm and Anata, in succession to Jenin, exposes this premeditated crime, engineered and carried out by the Israeli authorities. The consequent occurrence of poison cases in such great numbers demonstrates that the Zionists are working to a programme, selecting Palestinian cities and towns one after the other in an attempt to create a state of panic on the one hand, and to sterilise the greatest number possible of young Palestinian school girls on the other. The Zionist-oriented style in dealing with the Arabs in the occupied territories has no parallel except in some practices used by the Nazis. The Israeli authorities consider the residents of the occupied territories an obstacle impeding their demographic plans and annexationist schemes. They would do everything in their power to reduce the number of Arabs living in the occupied territories to make a majority out of the Jewish minority.

Those who have been following the actions of the criminally-minded Zionist leadership of Israel and their movement's history certainly recognise this new act at once as no natural disease but a premeditated criminal act.

Al Dustour: Arab World must follow up

ISRAEL seems to have made a decision to launch a new offensive against the Palestinians in the Bekaa Valley. Five armoured divisions have been concentrated in nearby positions as Palestine Liberation Organisation (PLO) leader Yasser Arafat pointed out Sunday. The new aggression will help the Zionists cover up for their daily acts of aggression against the Palestinian people and the Islamic holy places.

The urgent messages sent by the PLO Executive Committee to several Arab and world leaders urging them to carry out their human and international responsibilities must be supplemented by a follow-up effort to see effective measures undertaken by the organisations these leaders represent.

Israeli brutality is manifesting itself day after day in various forms. After the Deir Yassin, Kuf Kasim and Sabra and Shatilla massacres, Israel is resorting to a new technique to drive Palestinian Arabs out of their homes. Schoolgirls are being intentionally sterilised by poison, and a state of panic has been created by Israel's daily crimes.

Nonetheless, it is the Arabs and Muslims who must firstly carry out their responsibilities in the face of continued Israeli acts of aggression, and unless something serious is done by these two groups, it is absurd to ask the international community in essence to be more Arab than the Arabs themselves. The Zionist milestone that is crushing the Palestinian people at the moment, will never show any mercy if turned towards other Arab states.

Sawt Al Shaab: Time on Israel's side

THE accelerating campaign of terror, repression and violence systematically carried out by the Begin government against Arab masses in the West Bank and Gaza needs a more elaborate and serious study of its aims by Arabs.

The siege of Arab universities in the occupied territories by the Israeli authorities, the restrictions against academic institutes and personnel, the assaults against mosques, and the use of poison gas against schoolgirls are all symptoms of the same disease the Zionist suffer from. It is obvious that such increased pressure on the Palestinians cannot be divorced from the settlement and annexation policies. The main target is to create an unbearable situation in the occupied territories, leaving the people of the land no other alternative but to save their skins by "voluntarily" abandoning their homes.

Let us examine more closely the statement made several days ago by United States President Ronald "Viability is My Middle Name" Reagan, in which he reaffirmed that he would not release the delivery of 75 F-16 aircraft to Israel while Israel continued to occupy Lebanese territory. On the surface of it, this appears to be a refreshing show of American decisiveness and assertiveness in dealing with Israel, and a rare display of American willingness to use political force and material sanctions to bring Israel into line. In fact, the truth rather less dramatic. Consider, if you would, the following points:

1) The original decision to delay the formal notification to Congress of the president's intention to sell the planes to Israel was made last summer, immediately after Israel invaded and destroyed large parts of Lebanon. Mr. Reagan's statement last week simply continued an existing policy.

2) The 75 F-16s originally bad been scheduled to be delivered to Israel in 1984 and 1985. Holding

up formal notification to Congress of the intent to sell the planes to Israel at a time between one and two years ahead of scheduled delivery dates can have little more than poetic significance to current matters in the area.

3) In any case, State Department spokesman Alan Romberg said on April 1 that the issue is *not whether* Israel will get the planes, but *only when* it will get them. He added that the president's delay in notifying Congress of the planes sale is not inconsistent with U.S. Secretary of State George Shultz' position that pressures and threats against Israel are not the best way to bring about peace in the Middle East. In other words, Mr. Reagan's action is in the realm of the symbolic, at best.

4) Mr. Romberg also stressed that the president was not stating that he was making a determination of ineligibility under U.S. law for the transfer of the planes to Israel. He added that the Reagan administration, as required by law, had sent to Congress last July a report

that "substantial violations" may have occurred in the use of American arms in the Israeli invasion of Lebanon. He also added that *no violation had been determined*.

Yet, Mr. Reagan, in his remarks last week, said he was holding up the planes sale because "you must realise that under the law — the law exists now — those weapons must be for defensive purposes... we are in the position of occupying another country that has asked them to leave..." Mr. Romberg added that the delay in sending the planes is within "the spirit" of American law on such arms sales.

If we take all of these statements and try to make sense of them, we must conclude that Mr. Reagan has not determined that Israel has violated American laws by using American arms in an offensive invasion of Lebanon, that the F-16s will be delivered to Israel in due course and that America will not use pressure to influence Israeli policy. The present incident, therefore, is more or less a display of meaningless lip service to the

"spirit" of American laws. Sounds to me more like homage to the ghost of American equanimity.

5) Mr. Romberg also said that the decision three weeks ago to sell Israel a new batch of 200 Sidewinder air-to-air missiles was "a question of judgement", with the Reagan administration having decided that these were "defensive" weapons that could be sent to Israel. How peculiar. All those "defensive" missiles were used in dogfights with Arab planes over Syria and Lebanon, in support of the Israeli invasion of Lebanon that was offensive enough, we are told, to jar the spirit of American law. If this is what the United States calls "defensive" use of weaponry, woe betide the nation that bears the brunt of American weaponry used in an offensive manner. It seems to me that either Mr. Romberg has been asked to make a public fool of himself, in the service of his country and the tradition of American intellectual incoherence and emotional brutalism in the Middle East, or the Reagan administration has

singlehandedly reversed the tradition of several thousand years of Western thought and ethics by which rational societies have made rational judgements on the concepts of offense and defense. In this context, one asks Mr. Reagan: Are the men blocking for John Riggins defensive in nature?

6) The sum total of all these points, in my mind, points to a continuation of the well-established American policy of evading responsibility for Israel's use of American arms, money and political support in the Middle East. Mr. Reagan, like his predecessors, dances around the core problem of the Palestinian-Israeli-American relations and decides, true to American presidential form, to stick his head into the sand. Yet has Mr. Reagan hot yet determined if Israel has used American weapons offensively in Lebanon and is therefore ineligible for further arms sales? He is so fast to determine ineligibility in the case of Soviet or Polish or Libyan or Iraqi requests for American arms or other technology. Mr. Reagan

is scared of something, and his actions and words this week are those of a man who is afraid to deal with the realities of this world. How can he ask Arab leaders to be decisive and bold while he is a model of indecision, hesitation and professional fence-sitting? Mr. Reagan should be bold, and strike a blow for freedom, instead of just talking about it and making symbolic gestures whose hollowness is aggravated by the explanatory rhetoric of an administration that still applies the Politics of the Ostrich to the Arab-Israeli conflict.

By enforcing American laws on the use of American arms abroad in a non-defensive manner, Mr. Reagan could make an enormous contribution to restoring his country's credibility and stature in the entire world. He seems instead to have chosen the same old American path of make-believe, self-delusion and retreat from reality. It is an extraordinary shame — for the rest of us who are at the receiving end of America's theatre arts.



Israel uses Ottoman land code of 1859 to justify the occupation of West Bank land

By Alan Elster
Reuter

OCCUPIED JERUSALEM — Israeli and Arab experts believe it is only a matter of time before two-thirds of the land on the Israeli-occupied West Bank is owned by Jews.

According to Meron Benvenisti, a former deputy mayor of Jerusalem who now heads a team studying the occupation, Israel has already seized 465,000 acres (189,000 hectares) of West Bank land, about 32 per cent of the total. Most has been used to build Jewish settlements.

Elias Khoury, a Palestinian lawyer who has frequently represented Arab villagers in legal actions against Israeli land seizures, said the authorities had developed a new method of se-

izing land which was very difficult to fight. "They are relying on an obsolete law passed by the Ottoman empire in 1859 which by some historical accident was never repealed on the West Bank," he said.

"When they declare that pieces of land are state-owned, the Arab villagers who cultivate them have three weeks to appeal against the decision. The problem is that 70 per cent of West Bank land was never properly registered in ownership records," he added.

The Ottoman land code of 1859 states: "Empty land such as mountains, rocky land, boulders and meadows that are not owned by anybody and are not intended for use by a village or town, or are situated at a distance so that the voice of a man cannot be heard from the nearest village, are dead

lands."

It goes on: "Any man that needs this land can with the necessary authority work it, but complete ownership remains with the sultan." Mr. Benvenisti, who belongs to the left wing of the main opposition Labour Party, said the Israelis had conducted detailed surveys of the West Bank including aerial photographs to pinpoint land which might fall into this category.

He estimated that an additional 425,000 acres (172,000 hectares) could be classified as "dead lands" under the Ottoman code, a further 29 per cent of the total.

State lands

Officials guiding American Jews on tours of the West Bank always stress that the settlements are built on state lands which were

never legally owned by local Palestinians. But Mr. Khoury said some of the land being taken over had been held by Palestinian villagers for generations.

"They sometimes possess old Turkish documents but these rarely define the boundaries of the land. Such a document might say 'all the land between the tall tree and the narrow winding path belongs to the Muhammad family.' How do I prove to an Israeli court which tree and which path?" he said.

Since the Israelis captured the West Bank from Jordan in the 1967 six-day war, they have used security as the justification for taking over land. Most of the first Jewish settlements were built on private Arab land expropriated from its owners, and many Israeli settlers started as army camp

before later being handed over to civilians.

The Israeli settlement of Kiryat Arba, overlooking the Arab town of Hebron, began as an army base on expropriated Arab land. About 4,000 Israeli civilians live there today.

The theory that Israeli settlements in themselves contribute to security was successfully challenged in two Israeli supreme court cases in 1978 and 1979. In the latter case, the court ordered the government to move the newly-founded Eilon Moreh settlement near Nablus from expropriated land to state land and return the expropriated area to its Arab owners.

The court said the desire to establish a Jewish settlement did not in itself justify seizing private land. Mr. Khoury said the decision put in doubt the legal status of all settlements founded on expropriated land. "It was clear from the court's decision that settlements established in this way were only legal as long as the Israeli military government rules the area. If the status of the region changes, these settlements will no longer have

any right to remain under Israeli law," he said.

Opposition Knesset (parliament) member Amnon Rubinstein, a law professor from Tel Aviv University, believes the legal status of the settlements under international law is highly questionable.

The theory that Israeli settlements in themselves contribute to security was successfully challenged in two Israeli supreme court cases in 1978 and 1979. In the latter case, the court ordered the government to move the newly-founded Eilon Moreh settlement near Nablus from expropriated land to state land and return the expropriated area to its Arab owners.

The court said the desire to establish a Jewish settlement did not in itself justify seizing private land. Mr. Khoury said Israel was employing "gross double standards" by basing its actions on Ottoman law.

"Israel repealed all Ottoman laws still in force in its territory in 1979. Israel is proud to think of itself as a land of law and of fair legal practice," he said. "These tactics show up that boast for what it is."

Algerian efforts revive 25-year-old dream of North African unity

By Marc Delteil
Reuter

TUNIS — New Algerian efforts to improve relations with neighbouring Tunisia and Morocco have revived a 25-year-old dream of North African unity, but the Western Sahara conflict remains the chief obstacle.

The idea of a united "Maghreb" — the western end of the Arab World as opposed to the eastern "Mashreq" — was born at a meeting of nationalist movements in 1958, when Morocco and Tunisia had just won independence from France and the Algerians were still fighting French colonial rule. Unity failed to materialise because of political differences.

But new life has been injected into the idea over the past several weeks by meetings between Algerian President Chadli Benjedid, King Hassan of Morocco and Tunisian President Habib Bourguiba. Despite these promising signs, Arab diplomats expect no concrete steps towards a regional structure in the Maghreb until the Western Sahara conflict is resolved.

Algeria and Morocco have been at odds for more than seven years

over the former Spanish colony, where Algerian-based Polisario guerrillas are fighting to end Moroccan control.

The guerrillas, who are also funded and armed by Libya, proclaimed a "Saharan Arab Democratic Republic" (SADR) in 1976. Most African countries have recognised it. But Morocco, backed by a powerful minority in the Organisation of African Unity (OAU), regards the Western Saharan issue, with Algiers insisting on, and Rabat rejecting, direct talks between Morocco and the guerrillas.

Surprise talks between President Benjedid and King Hassan on Feb. 26 resulted in agreement to restore relations, severed after Algeria recognised the SADR in 1976. There was no sign of how they planned to solve the Western Saharan issue, with Algiers insisting on, and Rabat rejecting, direct talks between Morocco and the guerrillas.

But there were hints three weeks later from Algerian leaders, who signed a 20-year "treaty of fraternity and concord" with Tunisia, that Algiers may be looking to the Maghreb as the framework for a solution.

The sources saw the Algerian-Tunisian treaty as directed mainly against Libyan leader Muammar Qaddafi and said it increased his

isolation in the region.

Diplomatic sources said this was probably behind Colonel Qaddafi's recent decision to conclude a friendship treaty with the Soviet Union.

Tunisian officials were clearly satisfied with the Algerian commitment, implicit under the new treaty, not to permit any new Libyan moves to destabilise Tunisia. Among its provisions is an undertaking by each party not to allow groups hostile to the other to operate on its territory. Tunisia fears infiltration through Algeria of Tunisian opposition groups trained in Libya, following two incursions in the past three years.

But some officials expressed concern privately that the treaty would protect Tunisia's independence against alleged Libyan aims at the cost of greater dependence on Algeria.

Arab diplomats regarded last month's Benjedid-Hassan meeting as a conference between the two main regional powers to discuss the Maghreb's fate without giving to say to other interested parties, such as Tunisia, Libya and the Polisario guerrillas.

LETTERS

Leave private affairs alone

To the Editor:

Criticism is always of benefit when it is constructive and serves a good purpose, especially when it is based on facts and first-hand information.

Randa Habib's columns were always of interest to me. But I was surprised when I read her article "The Big Spend" (Jordan Times March 28) which she based on information from a gathering of gossipers. I wondered how this group came to know such specific details, as the amount of money spent by a certain mother and her daughter who had just got engaged on their gifts, as well as other small details that only the concerned ones know about.

Does not Miss Habib think that it would have been more useful if this group met to promote something more cultural and beneficial to the country, rather than gather to discuss people's private affairs?

Besides, every person has their right to their own way of life and spending is a private affair, as long as it does not harm other people. There is a question to which I would like an answer: what is the purpose of this article? And what services does it do to guide the reader, and the community?

S.F.M.
Amman

Joe S. in 1983

Palestinians cannot now build on one-third of West Bank land

Carter 'shocked' at West Bank restrictions

By Alan Elsner
Reuter

OCCUPIED JERUSALEM — On his recent visit to Israel, former U.S. President Jimmy Carter made plain his shock at discovering that Palestinians are banned from building homes in large areas of the occupied West Bank.

Mr. Carter told Arab dignitaries at a reception in Bethlehem town hall that he had been shown a map of the area with a few tiny red dots showing where Arabs are allowed to build. He later told reporters he had been unaware of the restrictions and that they ought to be more widely known.

Israeli Deputy Agriculture Minister Mikhail Dekel, who coordinates the Israeli West Bank settlement drive, recently explained his country's policy in an interview with Reuters. "It is very simple," he said. "The state of Israel will not give (state) land for the Arabs

to build on."

According to official figures, about one third of all West Bank land has already been declared state land and taken over by the Israelis.

The Israeli Peace Now Movement, which opposes Jewish West Bank settlements, said last month it had received information from senior army officers that settlers were setting up "vigilante teams" to prevent Arabs from building on "state land."

Settlers deny the report, but in the Hebron area a number of them recently demolished a half-built Arab house and uprooted four electricity pylons leading to Arab dwellings. When the Arab municipality put them up again, the settlers returned and demolished them a second and then a third time. They said the area was Israeli state land reserved for the future expansion of the Jewish settlement of Kiryat Arba and Arabs had no right to build there.

Meroo Benvinisti, a former deputy mayor of Jerusalem who now heads a team studying the occupation, said Israeli West Bank local authorities controlled large tracts of land which had been de facto annexed to Israel.

Wide powers

"These authorities are islands of Israel in the occupied territories. They have wider powers than local authorities in Israel because, being in occupied territory, they are not subject to political supervision by Israeli civilian authorities," said Mr. Benvinisti, who belongs to the left wing of the main opposition Labour Party.

The first three Israeli local authorities were established on the West Bank by military orders in March 1979. Since then five more have been added. The councils have the right to prepare voting registers, hold local elections, establish municipal courts, collect taxes and grant or deny building

permission to local residents. The military orders also defined the legal boundaries of each council, which go far beyond the limits of the Israeli settlements.

For example, the Ma'ale Adumim local council east of Jerusalem rules an area of 8,500 acres (3,500 hectares), according to official figures. The actual settlement of Ma'ale Adumim takes up only 3,500 acres (1,400 hectares). The rest of the land is empty but Arabs cannot use it without the permission of the Jewish local council.

Settlers are anxious to limit Arab building because they fear it will be more difficult to take over West Bank land whenever local Palestinians have built houses and are living. Palestinians are effectively restricted to buying and selling among themselves the land they already own. There is no way for them to build on empty state lands.

Dany Rubinstein, West Bank correspondent for the Labour

Federation's Davar newspaper, wrote in a recent article: "In order to bring about the practical annexation of the West Bank, it is not enough to encourage the growth of settlements. It is more important to block and limit expansion, construction and development by the Arabs."

Israeli occupation officials say the Arabs are well aware of this and have responded by initiating what one called "feverish building boom to create facts on the ground." Much of this building activity is financed by money sent from oil-rich Arab states such as Saudi Arabia. In Hebron, the Saudis are financing the construction of a big Mosque on the outskirts of Kiryat Arba which has effectively blocked expansion of the Jewish suburb in one direction.

In the race for the land, the Israelis have one major disadvantage. The expansion of their settlements is limited by the number of people willing to live in

them. Although increasing numbers of Israelis are attracted by new West Bank communities being built within easy commuting distance of Tel Aviv and Jerusalem, the number willing to live in more remote areas of the West Bank is very small.

One device used by the authorities is to declare an area a "nature reserve". All Arab construction there is then forbidden in the hope that enough Israelis will later become available to build a settlement. The transparency of this pretence was shown recently when the authorities gave planning permission to build a settlement called Nofim in the middle of an area of genuine natural beauty.

The nature protection society protested against the decision, which it said would destroy an attractive rocky valley with streams and waterfalls, the home of abundant wildlife. Its protests were to no avail.



Ex-President Carter: Unaware of restrictions

Reagan's missile reduction offer a sign of compromise

By David Nagy
Reuter

WASHINGTON — With his new offer on European missile reductions, President Reagan has demonstrated the blend of tough words and compromise he has adopted in pursuit of goals both at home and abroad.

Many moderate Republicans see the change in approach as a basis for predicting that he will seek re-election in 1984. In recent months, Mr. Reagan has increasingly followed the course of attacking his opponents with heated rhetoric and then meeting them part way on key economic and defence disputes.

The more conciliatory strategy, Reagan aides say, is a practical response to losses suffered in last year's congressional elections, stubbornly high unemployment rates and a rising popular clamour for an end to the arms race.

Coupled with sharp improvements in nearly every U.S. economic trend except joblessness, the more flexible approach seems to have restored confidence to White House advisers and Republican party leaders who were reeling under political setbacks only two months ago.

"I think he'll let people know privately before Labour Day (Sept. 5) that he's decided to run," said one well-informed Republican strategist who until recently had been more cautious.

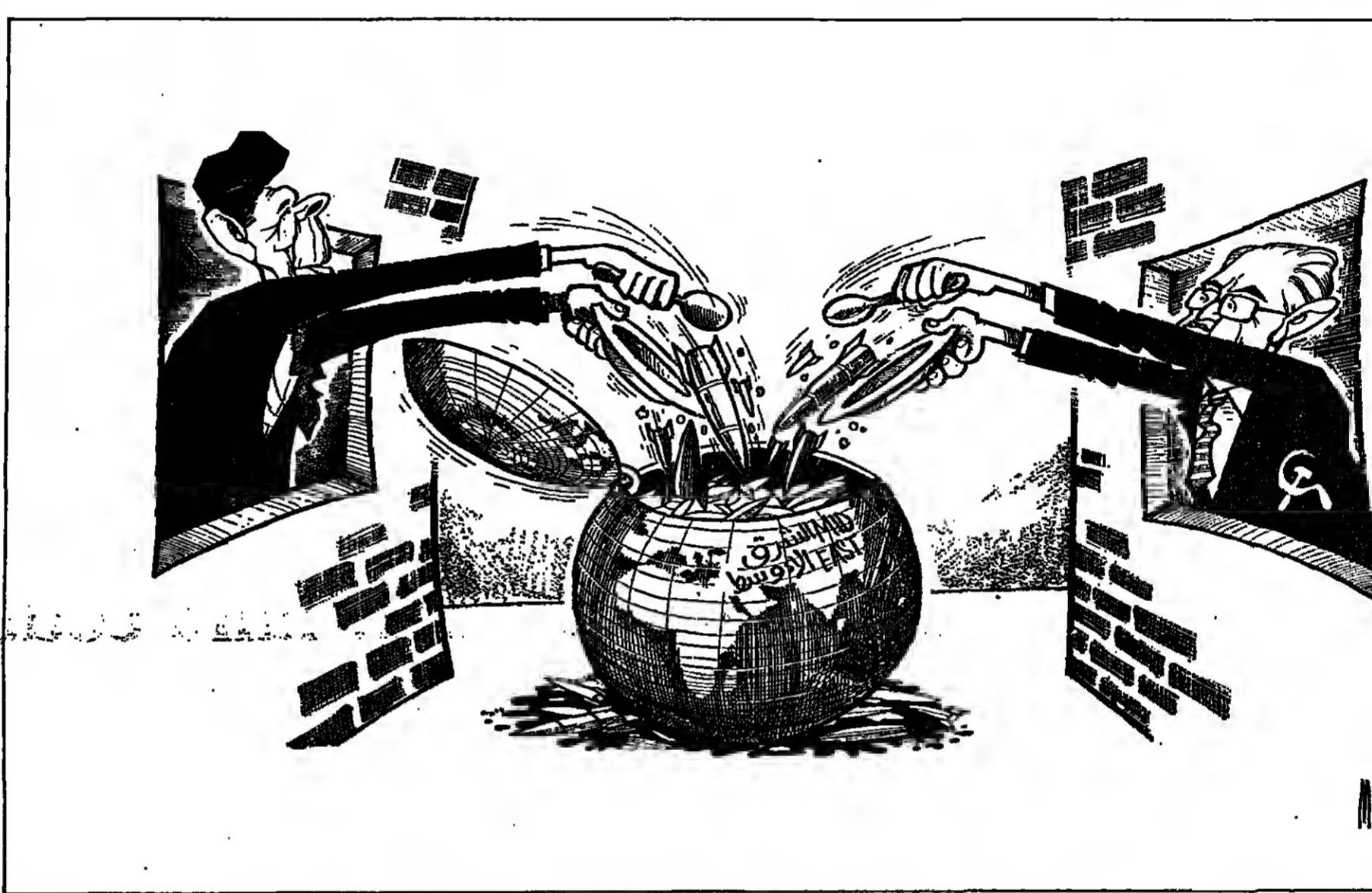
"Then I think he'll formally announce around Labour Day, You can't wait much longer than that."

Making deals

The new presidential style of talking tough but making deals has returned Mr. Reagan to the pragmatic politics he practised as governor of California, when he often compromised with the liberal Democratic-controlled state legislature.

The latest example of how he is applying this approach to the presidency was the interim missile proposal unveiled recently. Under this, the U.S. would scale back its scheduled deployment of intermediate-range missiles in Europe in return for equal cuts in comparable Soviet missile warheads. Mr. Reagan had been resisting pressure to take such a step for weeks. In seeking an unabated U.S. defence buildup, he had depicted the Soviet Union as "an evil empire" with which compromise on vital security issues would be dangerous folly.

Yet in announcing the compromise missile offer, he adopted the same argument Western European leaders had made all along in urging him to moderate his "zero option" demand. "When it comes to intermediate nuclear missiles in Europe," he said, "it would be better to have none than



to have some. But if there must be some, it is better to have few than many."

Since late December, there have been many such instances of Mr. Reagan offering compromise under fire.

— Congressional approval of a

plan to rescue the nearly bankrupt social security pension system, one of the country's most volatile political issues. The compromise was achieved by a bipartisan commission appointed by Mr. Reagan and included a tax-increase provision he had once

opposed.

— \$4.6 billion emergency jobs bill, approved with Mr. Reagan's blessing even though he had long condemned such government-financed programmes.

— A decision to withdraw a

claim of "executive privilege" and give Congress all the documents it sought in investigating alleged scandal in the Environmental Protection Agency (EPA).

Aides stress there are limits to Mr. Reagan's flexibility and insist he will not yield on vital matters of

principle, such as vastly increased military spending and lowered taxes.

A major test will come soon when Congress resumes work on a Democratic-backed 1984 federal budget proposal that would trim much of the proposed defence hui-

ldup and raise taxes. Although even Senate Republican leaders say Mr. Reagan will have to accept less than the 10-per-cent defence increase he wants, he insists this is the absolute minimum required. "That fight is not over," said one White House adviser.

TV & RADIO

JORDAN TELEVISION

MAIN CHANNEL

17:30 ... Koran
17:35 ... Cartoons
18:10 ... Heidi
18:25 ... Documentary
18:30 ... Local Programme
18:40 ... Programme on Sports
20:40 ... News
20:55 ... Arabic Series
21:30 ... Local Programme
22:30 ... Arabic Series
22:35 ... News in Arabic

FOREIGN CHANNEL

18:00 ... French Programmes
18:00 ... News in French
News in Hebrew

20:00 ... Movie of the Week: *One of the Wears-Wolf* / *Oliver Reed*

22:00 ... News in English

22:15 ... Dallas: *The Ewing Touch*

At first, the president tried to

keep fighting. He ran into unbreakable opposition on such issues as pressure for an emergency jobs bill and a basing plan for the MX missile. The president's decision to change tack, at least in some cases, has relieved moderate Republicans in the White House and Congress — and one sign was the prediction that he would seek another term.

"I think he'll let people know privately before Labour Day (Sept. 5) that he's decided to run," said one well-informed Republican strategist who until recently had been more cautious.

"Then I think he'll formally announce around Labour Day, You can't wait much longer than that."

WHAT'S GOING ON

TODAY'S EVENTS

CONCERT

* The Langenfeld Symphonic Brass Orchestra performs at the Royal Cultural Centre at 8:00 p.m.

FILM

* "La Hora," starring Jean Gabin, at the French Cultural Centre.

EXHIBITION

* "Acrylics and Gouaches" by Nicole Massin at the French Cultural Centre.

* There exhibitions are on at the Royal Cultural Centre from 10:00 a.m. to 10:00 p.m.

* Jordan and the European Communities.

* Treasures of Antiquity.

* Our art and blessings.

* Images of L'Art Francais.

* Leonardo's Working Models.

VIDEO

* CBS Evening News at the American Centre at 4:00 and 7:00 p.m.

CULTURAL CENTRES

Royal Cultural Centre Tel. 6610267

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Amman Municipal Library Tel. 36111

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VOICE OF AMERICA

12:00, 19:00, 22:00, 23:00, 23:30, 24:00

News Broadcasts

14:30 ... Instruments

14:30 ... In Concert

14:30 ... Concert Hour

14:30 ... Old Favorites

14:30 ... Science Reports

14:30 ... New Summary

14:30 ... Top Stories

14:30 ... Newsdesk

Date with a Star

Evening Show

News Summary

News Headlines

News Headlines

22:00 ... News Music USA (Jazz)

22:00 ... VOA World Report

BBC WORLD SERVICE

6:30, 7:00, 14:30 kHz

Newsdesk 06:30 The Brotherhood

06:45 Internews 06:55 Ref.

06:55 World News 07:00 24:

07:00 24:00 Special English

07:00 24:00 Special English Feature

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SPORTS

Liverpool closes in on English league title

LONDON (R) — Liverpool overwhelmed Manchester City 4-0 to move another inexorable step closer to the English Soccer League title Monday.

Graeme Souness put them in front with a 25-yard (metre) drive into the top corner in the 34th minute and David Fairclough, deputising for Welsh striker Ian Rush, made it 2-0 on the stroke of half-time.

Defender Alan Kennedy, who scored in last month's 2-1 League Cup final win over Manchester United, added the third in the 85th minute and Fairclough wrapped it up three minutes later.

Nearest challengers Watford trounced neighbour Luton 5-2 but still trail Liverpool by 16 points in a season which seems sure to bring the first division title to the Merseysiders a record 14th time.

England striker Luther Blissett scored twice, once from the penalty spot, and Richard Johnson, John Barnes and Nigel Callaghan netted the others as Watford notched their first home win over Luton since 1971.

Trevor Aylott and Brian Horton were the scorers for Luton who had Yugoslav midfielder Raddy Antic sent off as they stayed stuck one-from-bottom of the table, equal on points with bac-

kmarkers Brighton who did not play Monday.

Tottenham Hotspur brought a little light to their bleak season by slaming arch-rivals Arsenal 5-0 to boost their chances of a place in Europe next season.

Few things please a Spurs fan more than a big win over their North London neighbours and the drubbing at White Hart Lane was the biggest in 73 years of derby games against their old foes.

Spurs were three up in only 18 minutes, running riot against one of football's normally least charitable defences. Ireland defender Chris Hughson and striker Mark Falco netted two apiece and Alan Brazil scored the fifth—his first for Spurs since his transfer from Ipswich last month.

Blackburn goalkeeper Terry Genoee had earlier been hit by a bottle. A smoke grenade was thrown on to the pitch.

Burnley manager Frank Casper, with strong police protection, appealed for order. "The fans who are causing this trouble are a disgrace to Burnley Football Club and after today we don't want to see you," he said.

"This is the worst incident I have known in my long connection with Burnley and I am ashamed of you." Play was held up for 16 minutes and Burnley lost 2-1 to remain anchored at the foot of the second division table.

Arsenal, last beaten 5-0 by Spurs in the 1981-82 season, will try to tighten up for their Football Association (F.A.) Cup semi-final against Manchester United in 12 days.

United dropped to third in the table after a goalless draw away to Sunderland. Former European champions Aston Villa moved

within a point of United with a 1-0 win over relegation-haunted Birmingham. Gary Shaw netted the winner — his 20th goal of the season — in the 83rd minute.

Liverpool's city neighbours Everton defeated fifth-placed Stoke 3-1 thanks to two goals by Kevin Sheedy and another by Graeme Sharp.

There was crowd trouble at the second division Lancashire derby between Blackburn and Burnley.

Referee David Huicbinson took the teams off the field midway through the second half after Burnley fans got on to the roof of the stand and started hurling pieces of slate on to the pitch.

Vatanen, 31, competed in the rally for the first time in 1977 but failed to finish on a course which traditionally reduces the final field to about one-third of the starters.

After taking the chequered flag he admitted that breakdowns which forced the withdrawal of early leader Vic Preston of Kenya, in another Quattro, and compatriot Timo Salonen, in a Nissan

Finland's Vatanen wins Kenyan safari rally at 2nd attempt

NAIROBI (R) — Finland's Ari Vatanen, competing in the Kenyan Safari Motor Rally for the second time, came from behind to win the World Championship event Monday.

Driving an Opel Ascona 400, Vatanen surged into the lead overnight when three of the top four drivers dropped out because of mechanical trouble.

According to provisional results, the Audi Quattros of Hannu Mikkola and Frenchwoman Michèle Mouton were second and third respectively in the cars' first appearance in the 5,000-km (3,100-mile) rally.

Vatanen, 31, competed in the rally for the first time in 1977 but failed to finish on a course which traditionally reduces the final field to about one-third of the starters.

After taking the chequered flag he admitted that breakdowns which forced the withdrawal of early leader Vic Preston of Kenya, in another Quattro, and compatriot Timo Salonen, in a Nissan

240 RS, contributed to his victory.

"Halfway through the final leg I thought we had no chance," Vatanen told reporters. "We were more than two hours behind the leaders but our position improved after last night's rest when Preston and Salonen were forced out. Suddenly we found ourselves in the lead."

Preston, who had led since the first leg, retired on the 22nd stage when he hit a boulder while driving fast through a cloud of dust and broke the suspension of his Audi Quattro.

Salonen then took the lead but had to pull out on the 31st stage when his once-repaired camshaft failed to hold up.

Another casualty of the tough overnight stage from Western Kenya was Rauno Aaltonen of Finland in a second Opel Ascona.

He had to withdraw with a broken oil pump.

Mouton might have given Vatanen a harder race but for losing a wheel on the 25th stage of the

38-stage final leg which cost her 71 minutes.

Vatanen, a teetotaller, declined to drink the winners' champagne and even refused to allow it to be sprayed over him. Instead, he invited five Finnish children waving the country's blue and white flag to sit on the bonnet of his dust-caked car to pose for a victory photograph.

Mouton, who was taking part in the event for the first time and promised to come back next year, said: "The safari rally is very special."

"It is not more difficult than other rallies but very different because of the tough conditions. You can't drive flat out or you will break your car. You have to try to hang on to the finish," she said.

It was a rally of upsets in which local hero Shekhar Mehta, who has won the event a record five times including the last four years, was forced out in his Datsun 240 RS in the first leg.

TENNIS TALK

Mixed doubles

By Maureen Stalla

MIXED DOUBLES can be a fascinating and complicated game. It is a doubles match where the teams are usually uneven. Because of this, both the man and the woman have certain problems to overcome.

The woman is usually intimidated in the match. She is nervous about letting her partner down, and also afraid her opponent will smash balls at her. Her fear must be put aside and she must hold her own. The players should work as a team as much as possible. If the woman has a definite deficiency, they should discuss it before the match and adapt their tactics accordingly. Even though the man usually takes the tough shots and most smashes, the woman must play her side. If the other team is playing the woman, she must dig in and get the ball back until her partner can attack. She should lob often and direct her balls to the lady.

The man must decide how he is going to play with respect to the woman on the other team. Most tennis books and coaches advocate going for her jugular. In professional doubles this is fair. But in purely social doubles, I think he should not terrorise his female opponent. Winning in social doubles should be secondary to having a good time and keeping good friends. However, in a tournament, it is expected that you play the lady—it is the logical thing to do. The man should serve first as his serve is stronger, and it is important to get the first game. There are two exceptions to this: If the woman would wind up serving in the sun, perhaps she should serve first; and if there is a stiff wind blowing the length of the court, it might be wise to let her serve with it to give her more speed. The man should not ease up on his serve to the woman—that is like giving away points.

The man should play the backhand side, assuming he is the stronger player. Even if she is left handed this is usually best because this is the side where close games are decided and it is best to have your strength there. Poaching is good doubles. But be sure, in social doubles that poaching does not become hogging, or you will irritate all the players. And, if you are playing with your wife, you might pay for it later.

In the end, your success in mixed doubles, as in any doubles depends on your teamwork. Work out your strengths and weaknesses together and you will find mixed doubles to be interesting and rewarding in its own way.

Bobby Charlton returns to soccer management

LONDON (R) — Former England soccer star Bobby Charlton returned to management Monday with third division Wigan but said he did not want to keep the post.

"I don't want the job permanently," said Charlton, a director at Wigan, who agreed to take over as manager after the sacking of Larry Lloyd, a former England defender.

Charlton, 45, won 106 England caps and made more than 600 league appearances for Manchester United. He won a World Cup winners' medal with England in 1966 and scored twice in United's 4-1 defeat of Portugal's Benfica in the 1968 European Cup final.

Charlton's successes as a player were not mirrored in his only previous experience as manager—a two-year spell with Preston in the mid-1970s which saw the club drop from the second division to the third.

Lloyd, 34, took Wigan to promotion from the fourth division last season but was fired Monday after a four-match losing streak which plunged the club towards the relegation zone.

West German cup final all-Cologne affair

COLOGNE, West Germany (R) — A sensational 5-0 semifinal victory Monday by second division Fortuna Cologne over Borussia Dortmund means that this year's West German Soccer Cup final will be an all-Cologne affair.

Playing at home before a capacity crowd of 14,000, Fortuna stunned Borussia with three goals in the first 35 minutes and wra-

pped matters up with two in the last three minutes.

In the final on June 11 they play neighbours 1st F.C. Cologne, who on Saturday beat VFB Stuttgart 3-2 in extra time in the other semifinal, also played in this city on the Rhine.

Fortuna, fourth in the second division table but with little chance of promotion, have put paid to two other first division sides, Eintracht Brunswick and Borussia Moenchengladbach on their way to the final.

Two of the Cologne side's goals came from 24-year-old Dieter Schatzschneider, a highly rated striker who has notched 25 league goals this season.

Schatzschneider, widely tipped for the national team, is already set to join champions Hamburg SV this summer as a replacement for Horst Hrubesch, who leaves for Standard Liege.

Pakistan have played no more than three tests in each of their 10 previous series against Australia which started in 1956-57.

Pakistan set for five tests against Australia

KARACHI (R) — Pakistan will play a five-test series against Australia for the first time in their three and a half months cricket tour starting next Oct. 21.

Arif Abbasi, secretary of the Board of Control for Cricket in Pakistan (BCCP), Monday gave details of a tentative itinerary for the Australian tour.

It comprised six first class fixtures, five tests, a limited overs match and the triangular one-day World Series Cup against Australia and West Indies.

The tests are scheduled for Perth (November 11-15), Brisbane (November 25-29), Adelaide (December 9-13), Melbourne (December 26-30) and Sydney (January 2-6).

Pakistan have played no more than three tests in each of their 10 previous series against Australia which started in 1956-57.

Trapattoni saw Widzew warm up for Wednesday's match with a 3-1 win over local rivals LKS Lodz and afterwards said that unless his side played as aggressively as they did against Belgians Standard Liege and Villa in earlier rounds of the cup "these devils are going to punish us without mercy, as Torino did."

Centre forward Włodzimierz Smolarek, one of three Polish World Cup squad players in the Widzew side, scored the first goal against LKS and laid on another.

His battle with hard-tackling Italian international Claudio Gentile is expected to be one of the key confrontations of an intriguing tie.

Smolarek, the Widzew Skipper, said gentile would find him a more difficult opponent than Argentine Diego Maradona or Brazil's Zico, whom he marked during the World Cup.

Juventus striker Paolo Rossi has been troubled by a knee injury recently, but Trapattoni expects his side to be at full strength on Wednesday.

San Sebastian's Real Sociedad, like Widzew one of the dark horses of the tournament, will be pla-

ying their first semifinal in a European competition when they take on Hamburg.

The Basque side, League Champions for the past two years, have struggled to find their best form this season. But they warmed up for Wednesday's home leg with a 1-0 League win over Barcelona Sunday.

The Spaniards will have to keep a tight rein on Hamburg's Danish international Lars Bastrup, who scored a stunning hat-trick in the 3-0 quarter-final away leg win over Dynamo Kiev of the Soviet Union.

Hamburg, beaten by England's Nottingham Forest in the 1980 final, are looking to become only the second West German club to lift the trophy. Bayern Munich won it on three successive occasions between 1974 and 1976.

Spain also have an interest in the Cupwinners' Cup where Real Madrid, six times winners of the Champions' Cup, are firm favourites to reach the final at the expense of Austria, Vienna.

Real, missing their two top foreign exiles, Dutchman Johnny Metgod (suspended) and West German Uli Stielike (rested), swept back to the top of the Spanish first division Sunday with a 2-0 home win over Athletic Bilbao.

But they can expect a tough time in Vienna on Wednesday. The Austrian champions will be buoyed by a 5-1 thrashing of last year's semi-finalists.

Scotland's Aberdeen, whose European pedigree was improved by their quarter-final win over Bayern, entertain Belgium's Waterloo in the other semifinal.

The semifinal first leg ties of the UEFA Cup pit Portugal's Benfica against Romanians Universitatea Craiova and Bohemians Prague of Czechoslovakia against Belgium's Anderlecht.

Benfica, twice winners of the European Cup during their heyday in the early 60s, have yet to be beaten in a UEFA tie this season.

Coe wins golden shoe road race

VIGEVANO, Italy (R) — Britain's triple world record holder Sebastian Coe won the 6.6-km (4.1 miles) golden shoe road race here Monday.

Coe, running as a guest in an Italian field, clocked 18 minutes 28 seconds to win by two seconds from Gelindo Bordin. It was his second victory in the event, his first win coming in 1980.

Coe later told reporters that he was training to compete in the 800 metres, for which he holds the world record, at the World Championships in Helsinki in August. But he said he would not neglect the 1,500 metres.

The latest mystery about the horse took place last Friday, when a telephone caller told the Irish state radio network that if a ransom of £1.5 million (about \$1.95 million) was not paid by Saturday morning, the head of the horse would be dumped in a Dublin park.

No head was found and a spokesman for the Aga Khan said nothing was paid. Police said they believed the call was a hoax.

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THE BRITISH COUNCIL

ARABIC CLASSES

The British Council announces the commencement of the new term on 3rd April. Classes will be offered at two levels.

Dates of term : 9th April - 22nd June
Times of classes: Mornings
Fee : JD 29.

Registration will take place from 3rd - 6th April from 9:00 - 12:00 and 3:30 - 5:30 p.m.

British Council
Rainbow Street, off First Circle
Tel. 36147/8

ECONOMY

Zhao urges Third World to coordinate development

PEKING (R) — Third World countries must sink their differences and cooperate fully in the struggle to build a new international economic order, Chinese Prime Minister Zhao Ziyang said Monday.

He was giving the opening address at a four-day "South-South conference" in Peking attended by scholars and development experts from Third World countries.

"China is a developing socialist country belonging to the Third World," Mr. Zhao said, reiterating a theme which has become common in recent months as Peking tries to distance itself from the two super-powers.

"The Chinese government has unswervingly taken as the corner stone of its foreign policy the strengthening of unity and cooperation with other Third World countries," he said.

Mr. Zhao added the Peking conference was being held at a time when the world economic situation was extremely grim, and developing countries were seeking ways to cope with it.

The meeting was a timely and appropriate forum "to explore ... such important issues as the development strategies of the developing countries, North-South negotiations and South-South cooperation," he said.

The success of Third World countries' development strategies depended to a very large extent on fundamental changes in "the unjust and inequitable old international economic order."

"The super-powers either stubbornly reject the idea of restructuring the old international economic order or take an indifferent attitude towards it," Mr. Zhao said.

"Therefore it becomes all the more necessary for us Third World countries to strengthen our unity and cooperation."

Third World countries should draw up urgent, feasible economic development projects and coordinate their actions in the various forums of North-South negotiations.

All that had emerged, he said, was the concept of national and collective self-reliance which needed to be fashioned and corrected in far more concrete terms.

The Peking symposium is org-

anised jointly by the London-based Third World Foundation and the Chinese Academy of Social Sciences.

Mr. Altaf Gauhar, secretary-general of the Third World Foundation and one of the co-chairmen, told a new conference that many development strategies and projects had been evolved over the past 30 years and almost all of them had proved less than fruitful.

He quoted World Bank estimates that 800 million people in the world lived in poverty and that Third World countries were burdened with debts of about \$800 billion.

Mr. Gauhar said the so-called North-South dialogue between rich and poor nations had given no worthwhile results and experts in both the industrial and developing worlds had run out of ideas.

That had emerged, he said, was the concept of national and collective self-reliance which needed to be fashioned and corrected in far more concrete terms.

Comecon warned not to expect more Soviet oil

MOSCOW (R) — Moscow's communist allies should not hope for any increase in the amount of oil they import from the Soviet Union, a leading economist warned in an article published here Monday.

Mr. Oleg Bogomolov, senior expert on relations within the Soviet-led Comecon trading group, said the allies must improve the way they used existing supplies and rely on domestic resources or nuclear energy for additional needs.

The article, published in the political monthly *Mezhdunarodnaya Zhizn* (International Life), was evidently meant to set out Moscow's position at forthcoming summit of Comecon, widely expected to take place in Moscow in May.

Officials in some East European states, especially Romania and Czechoslovakia, have hinted that their governments will press for increased Soviet oil supplies and lower prices at the summit.

"We have clearly reached the limit in output of oil and a number of other components of our energy and raw material exports, except, of course, gas and electro-energy," Mr. Bogomolov said in the article.

Soviet oil production has stabilised at just over 600 million tonnes a year (12 million barrels per day).

Around a quarter of this is exported and the largest share has always gone to the East European communist states and Cuba.

But according to East European sources, Moscow has cut supplies by as much as 10 per cent over the past few months and diverted the oil on to the Western market.

Mr. Bogomolov made clear the Soviet leadership would not soften its tough line on the question of oil supplies but said there could be increases in gas supplies to allied states.

As well as urging the allies to develop nuclear power, the Soviet academician said they should look to developing countries as sources of energy.

Comecon countries could help to tap Third World reserves and import the fuel in exchange for deliveries of machinery and equipment, he said.

E. European states face dwindling export markets

VIENNA (R) — OPEC's economic difficulties and the depressed world oil trade, highlighted by the oil price cut, raise the spectre of dwindling export markets for many East European countries. Western economists say.

The smaller East European countries will not benefit from the \$5 cut to \$29 a barrel announced by the Organisation of Petroleum Exporting Countries (OPEC).

Except for Romania, Eastern Europe gets most of its oil from the Soviet Union at rates reflecting world levels over the last five years, which will start falling only in 1985.

But many East European countries have set up refining industries even if they are not traditional oil exporters.

Consequently, their foreign exchange earnings from exports of refined products are at risk in the current world oil glut.

Like Western countries, the members of the communist trade

bloc Comecon have built up important export markets among oil producers whose purchasing power is now threatened.

According to the Vienna Institute for Comparative Economic Studies, oil products accounted for 29 per cent of Bulgaria's exports to Western industrialised countries in 1981 and 24 per cent of East Germany's.

Among traditional East-bloc oil exporters the figures are even higher. Romanian oil sales formed 41 per cent of its 1981 exports to the West and oil was 56 per cent of Soviet Western exports, with energy supplying 78 per cent of its Western sales.

The impact of lower oil prices may be eased if prices for refined products fall less than crude, while falling interest rates may outweigh the losses from cheaper oil.

But the institute reckons that a 20 per cent drop in the oil price would cost the Soviet Union \$3.3 billion — roughly its 1982 trade surplus with the West — while East Germany and Romania would lose about \$250 million and Poland and Czechoslovakia about \$100 million.

It is paid for in Comecon's currency of transferable roubles, so East-bloc customers do not need to spend scarce hard currency reserves, while transport costs to Eastern Europe from the Soviet Union are less than from world markets.

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WORLD

Zimbabwe rebels kill senator, daughter and British visitor

HARARE (R) — Zimbabwe rebels have killed a white senator, his daughter and a British visitor in a raid on their farm, a government spokesman said Monday.

The rebels also seriously wounded the wife of Senator Paul Savage in the attack Sunday night while the family was having a barbecue, he said.

The spokesman said between 20 and 30 dissidents struck at the Savage ranch in Matabeleland, about 130 kilometres south of the provincial capital of Bulawayo.

A white farmer, his wife and two teenagers, grand-daughters were killed by rebels 150 kilometres west of Bulawayo two weeks ago.

The spokesman said Savage, 60,

his daughter Colleen, 21, and a friend from Britain died instantly in a hail of gunfire.

The visitor's name was withheld until next-of-kin had been informed, but friends of the Savage family said she was a young woman.

The rebels had ordered all ranch workers into the hills before making for the Savage family, the spokesman said.

"They then surrounded the homestead where the Savages and a visitor were having a braai (barbecue) and ordered them to raise their hands," he said.

When their hands were up, the rebels opened fire.

After the slaughter the rebels ransacked the Savage house and

stole a large quantity of property, the spokesman said.

He added that it was believed that one bandit was killed accidentally during the shooting and buried nearby in a shallow grave by his companions.

Friends said they understood Mrs. Savage was out of danger Monday.

Former Rhodesian Prime Minister Ian Smith told Reuters Monday: "I'm badly shaken. This is a terrible tragedy."

Reached by telephone at his Midlands farm, Smith said Savage was a close friend, "one of the best loved men in that part of the world".

The government has blamed the Matabeleland-based opposition Zulu Party of Joshua Nkomo for the trouble. Zulu has denied it, saying it does not know who the dissidents are.

was a frequent visitor and had many friends in Zimbabwe. "A nicer person would be difficult to find," he said.

Smith said he had no idea what had given rise to the attack. "The scene in Matabeleland is a very strange one," he said. "I just don't know what it's all about."

At least 130 people, including more than 30 whites, mostly farmers and miners, have been officially reported killed by rebels in Matabeleland in the past year.

The government has blamed the Matabeleland-based opposition Zulu Party of Joshua Nkomo for the trouble. Zulu has denied it, saying it does not know who the dissidents are.

The girl from Britain, he said,

tribunal of belonging to the Mozambique National Resistance (RNM), a guerrilla organisation said by Mozambique to be run by South Africa. Pretoria denies involvement with the RNM.

They were alleged to have killed and kidnapped civilians and destroyed schools, hospitals, shops and communal villages.

The court was told that Tauzene

had twice been taken to South Africa by helicopter to collect weapons for his group.

One other man sentenced to die was found to have smuggled prawns, television sets and video machines across the Swaziland border. Prawns are one of Mozambique's main foreign exchange earners and of crucial importance to the economy of the imp-

overished Socialist state.

Another man was sentenced to death for stealing sugar and maize to be sold on the black market, while two were condemned to die for robbing a bakery and murdering its owner.

A lorry-driver in the prawn and video operation was jailed for 12 years and given 45 strokes of the lash.

Mozambique sentences 6 rebels, robbers to death

DENVER, Colorado (R) — Six men have been sentenced to death and 11 jailed and flogged after being convicted of rebel activity, robbery and black marketing, the official Mozambican News Agency AIM reported Monday.

Two of the men condemned to death, Juliu Tauzene and Jose Muchinga, were found guilty by the Maputo military revolutionary

AIM reported Monday.

The rust-coloured cloud formed when 20,000 gallons (76,000 litres) of nitric acid spilled from the ruptured tanker. The evacuation was ordered when winds blew the cloud towards the centre of the city.

About 2,300 people took buses to evacuation centres. Thousands

of others left by car.

Officials said nearly three dozen people were treated in hospital for skin irritations and eye and chest pains. There were no reports of serious poisoning.

The cloud was brought under control when workers mixed a neutralising agent with pools of spilled acid.

Three firemen suffered minor injuries at the scene of the spill, including one burned on the foot by acid that seeped through a rip in his rubberised suit.

About 2,300 people took buses to evacuation centres. Thousands

GOREN BRIDGE

BY CHARLES GOREN

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Q.1 — Both vulnerable, as South you hold:

♦AJ72 ♦73 ♦AKQ1065 ♦8

The bidding has proceeded:

West North East South

1 ♠ Pass 2 ♠ ?

What action do you take?

A. — Don't risk losing the spade suit! If you timidly bid three diamonds, that could easily happen. Make a takeout double. Should partner bid clubs, you certainly are strong enough to correct to diamonds, thus making it clear that your double was based on diamonds and spades.

Q.2 — East-West vulnerable, as South you hold:

♦AJ10764 ♦7 ♦J105 ♦985

The bidding has proceeded:

East South West North

1 ♠ 2 ♠ 3 ♠ 3 ♠

4 ♠ ?

preemptive

What action do you take?

A. — There is an old adage that applies here: "Once you have described your hand with a limit bid, don't bid again!" Your preemptive leap to two spades described your hand exactly. For all you know, partner's bid of three spades might have been a tactical play to jockey the opponents into four hearts, which be intends doubling. Leave matters to him — pass.

Q.3 — Neither vulnerable, as South you hold:

♦A ♦J10 ♦AQ842 ♦J1062

The bidding has proceeded:

North East South West

1 ♠ Pass 2 ♠ Pass

2 ♠ Pass ?

What do you bid now?

A. — The hand was developed awkwardly. The one bid you can't make is three diamonds — that shows a sub-minimum two over one response with little outside the diamond suit. That limits your choice of responses to three clubs or a raise to three hearts. We prefer the latter despite our short trumps, because we have two honours in the suit. Three clubs virtually commits the hand to game and we do not have enough

strength to do that. Of course, should partner try three no trump over three hearts, we would be happy to let him play there.

Q.4 — As South, vulnerable, you hold:

♦J9 ♦AJ4 ♦J10764 ♦KQ98

The bidding has proceeded:

North East South West

1 ♠ Pass 2 ♠ Pass

2 ♠ Pass 2 NT Pass

3 ♠ Pass ?

What action do you take?

A. — Don't persist with no trump. Partner has shown a minimum opening bid with six spades and four hearts, so you may be unable to make nine tricks before the opponents have five. All you can do now is take a preference to three spades — the suit in which you have a known eight-card fit. If partner wishes to push on to game, that's his decision.

Q.5 — As South, vulnerable, you hold:

♦AJ10 ♦K762 ♦Q3 ♦A987

The bidding has proceeded:

South West North East

1 ♠ Pass 1 ♠ Pass

2 ♠ ?

What do you bid now?

A. — First, if you believe that partner's one diamond response to your one club opening bid denies a four-card major, you are playing a system that is alien to us. If you agree that partner could have a major suit, then your rebid is clear — one heart must be superior to one no trump, since the latter runs the risk of missing a 4-4 heart fit.

Q.6 — Both vulnerable, as South you hold:

♦AQ983 ♦AQ5 ♦Q3 ♦A102

The bidding has proceeded:

South West North East

1 ♠ Pass 3 ♠ Pass

2 ♠ ?

What do you bid now?

A. — The hand was developed awkwardly. The one bid you can't make is three diamonds — that shows a sub-minimum two over one response with little outside the diamond suit. That limits your choice of responses to three clubs or a raise to three hearts. We prefer the latter despite our short trumps, because we have two honours in the suit. Three clubs virtually commits the hand to game and we do not have enough

19 killed as militants block Punjab roads

NEW DELHI (R) — At least 19 people were killed and 180 injured in the North Indian state of Punjab Monday when police tried to clear roads blocked by thousands of protesting Sikh militants, a police spokesman said.

The casualties occurred in exchanges of gunfire between police and demonstrators in several places across the northern farming state, the spokesman told Reuters by telephone from the Punjab capital of Chandigarh. At least 124 police and 56 protesters were killed by police in two separate incidents, the spokesman said.

Police moved in after thousands of Sikhs chanting religious hymns erected barricades and squatted on roads in the eight-hour blockade organised by the Sikh Akali Dal party. The party is campaigning for religious and political demands including greater autonomy for the Punjab, where most Sikhs live.

Police said they returned fire when they were shot at as they tried to disperse angry protesters in several parts of Punjab. The greatest number of deaths was in the southern district of Sangrur, where 11 militants were killed by police in two separate incidents, the spokesman said.

Several demonstrators were injured in police baton charges. Security forces also used tear gas and water hoses to disperse stone-throwing Sikhs. In one part

of Sangrur district about a dozen small shops were burned down and protesters set fire to vehicles and a police post.

The Press Trust of India PTI news agency said most traffic action was stopped during the protest. Akali Dal leader Har-Chand Singh Longawal claimed the road blockade was a complete success, condemning what he termed unprovoked police shooting and indiscriminate use of tear gas.

He called an emergency meeting of the party's leadership in the Sikh holy city of Amritsar on Thursday to review their campaign.

Police were ordered to maintain traffic on key roads during Monday's protest.

KENNEDY SPACE CENTRE (R) — The U.S. space shuttle Challenger takes an intriguing variety of experiments into orbit this time, including a canister of seeds to test the effects of space on plant growth and a snow-formation package sponsored by a Japanese newspaper.

A cylinder of experiments devised by aspiring astronauts from the U.S. Air Force Academy was mounted beside the seed and snow units in Challenger's cargo bay.

In the cabin the astronauts will conduct sophisticated experiments that could lead to the manufacture in space of new medicines and tiny surgical aids that cannot be made on earth.

The right to have an experiment taken aboard the spacecraft could be bought for as little as \$3,000, with the aim of stimulating larger-scale space activities later.

A South Carolina seed company hopes the flight of 44 types of flower, vegetable and herb seeds will eventually lead to use of plants on a self-sustaining U.S. space station.

One section of the seeds can-

ister is sealed to maintain an earth-like atmosphere and the other will be exposed to the vacuum and harsh radiation of space when Challenger's payload bay doors are opened after attaining orbit.

George Park, president of the George W. Park Seed Company of Greenwood, South Carolina, told reporters the effects of space travel and its harsh environment should provide valuable information on genetic research for his firm.

The Japanese newspaper Asahi Shimbun chose its experiment from 17,000 ideas sent in by readers.

Using water from a pond at the foot of Mount Fuji, the experiment is designed to observe the crystal growth of artificial snow in weightless conditions.

The Air Force Academy's package of six metallurgical and biological experiments should provide important data on subjects such as materials-processing and construction in space.

The academy has devoted five years of development to its project and six senior cadets have been primarily responsible for final development as part of an engineering and design course.

Expensive experiment

The Japanese experiment employs the latest in miniature television technology and was designed and built at a cost of about

\$340,000. It will be activated by one of the astronauts about three days into the flight.

"We would like to make beautiful snow crystals floating in the void of space," Asahi Shimbun executive Shigeru Kimura told reporters. "No one knows what kind of crystals will be formed under weightlessness."

Kimura said the first artificial snow crystals were made in 1936 by a Japanese physicist, the late Uchikiro Nakaya of Hokkaido University, and "We wanted to make sure that the first artificial snow in space is also Japanese."

He said no direct commercial applications were expected to result from the experiment.

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No secularisation

This practice has been handed down through even the worst suppression of the church during the Stalinist period in the early 1950s, and in the face of attempts to secularise main church festivals.

In his message, Cardinal Giampiero Giannini condemned the government's repression of its opponents with exhortations to observe Christian values.

"We painfully experience the loss of freedom of many of our fellow citizens, but at the same time, we are aware of the enormity of the sin of depriving unborn babies of life," he said in a reference to the church's anti-abortion campaign.

The clergy in many churches included the Solidarity theme in their displays, recalling the support the church has given to martial law detainees and its appeals for an amnesty for political pri-